



Department of  
**Commerce &  
Insurance**

State Fire  
Marshal's Office

# Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office 2017 – 2018 Calendar







## Dear Tennessee Resident,

On behalf of our team at the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance and the State Fire Marshal's Office, I'm proud to offer you this 17-month educational fire safety calendar.

As the daughter of a firefighter, I know that fire safety starts at home. I hope you will display this calendar in a prominent place in your home or workspace and remind yourself of the fire safety tips inside. They could make all the difference during an emergency.

Though we have much more work ahead, our efforts at making Tennessee safer are paying off. Working with our partners and volunteers across the Volunteer State, our "Get Alarmed, Tennessee!" smoke alarm distribution program has saved at least 150 lives. Meanwhile, new firefighters are being trained at the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy where they're using modern equipment and receiving first-rate instruction to combat fire.

In closing, I hope the safety tips and photos in this calendar will inspire you to help make Tennessee safer.

Sincerely,  
**Julie Mix McPeak**  
Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance





# Consumer Resources

The State Fire Marshal's Office is committed to protecting the safety of Tennesseans and their property. Our staff is here to assist you all year long. Contact us using the section information below or by visiting [tn.gov/fire](http://tn.gov/fire).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Processes 20 types of licenses, permits, and certificates, including those for fireworks, LP Gas, explosives, fire sprinkler systems, and fire extinguishers; administers the Code Inspector Certification Program.

Phone: 615-741-2981

## **EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

Coordinates statewide fire prevention and fire safety outreach efforts; administers the "Get Alarmed" smoke alarm program; compiles and analyzes state fire incident data; manages the Tennessee Fire Incident Reporting System and the Fire Department Recognition program.

Phone: 615-350-6443

## **CODES ENFORCEMENT**

Enforces statewide fire and building codes and standards in specific occupancies; conducts plans reviews and inspections of new buildings and annual inspections for schools, daycares, and other buildings requiring an inspection from the State Fire Marshal's Office to receive a license; inspects codes-related complaints, including those involving blasting, fireworks, and LP Gas facilities.

Phone: 615-741-7190

## **FIRE INVESTIGATIONS**

Responds to statewide fire incidents that are destructive to buildings and other properties, as well as those that result in fatalities; works closely with local jurisdictions to determine cause, origin, and circumstances of fire; operates the state's 24-hour Arson Hotline, a phone line dedicated to receiving information about suspicious and incendiary fires.

Phone: 615-741-3030

Tennessee Arson Hotline: 1-800-762-3017

## **MANUFACTURED HOUSING & MODULAR BUILDINGS**

Monitors, enforces, oversees, and performs inspections as related to construction and installations standards throughout the state; performs licensing for manufacturers, dealers, and installers; issues compliance labels and installation decals; monitors and ensures federal standards and State of Tennessee TCA /Rule are enforced and takes appropriate action for violators.

Phone: 615-741-7192

## **RESIDENTIAL/ELECTRICAL/MARINA INSPECTIONS**

Responsible for both the electrical inspection program and the residential building code enforcement program; issues permits and performs inspections to enforce the provisions of Tennessee's adopted electrical code, residential building code, and energy conservation code.

Phone: 615-741-7170

## **FIRE SERVICE & CODES ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY**

Plans, develops, delivers, and facilitates education and training that promotes professionalism and competency of fire service and codes enforcement personnel through a standardized statewide program.

Phone: 931-294-4111

## **FIREFIGHTING COMMISSION**

Administers the Firefighter Certification Program as a credentialing system for the fire service profession; administers the Educational Incentive Pay Program for career firefighters who complete required in-service training annually.

Phone: 931-294-4140



# Don't Forget Fire Safety This Winter!

Brutally cold weather can drastically increase fire risks during what is already a peak season for residential fires. It is crucial to make fire safety a priority in and around our homes to avoid the devastation that can accompany frigid temperatures.

Tips to avoid winter fire hazards:

- Turn portable alternative heaters (such as space heaters or kerosene heaters) off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Portable heaters need their space. Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away.
- Make sure your portable heaters have "tip switches." These switches are designed to automatically turn off the heater in the event they tip over.
- Do not use the kitchen oven range to heat your home. In addition to being a fire hazard, it can be a source of toxic fumes.
- Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot.



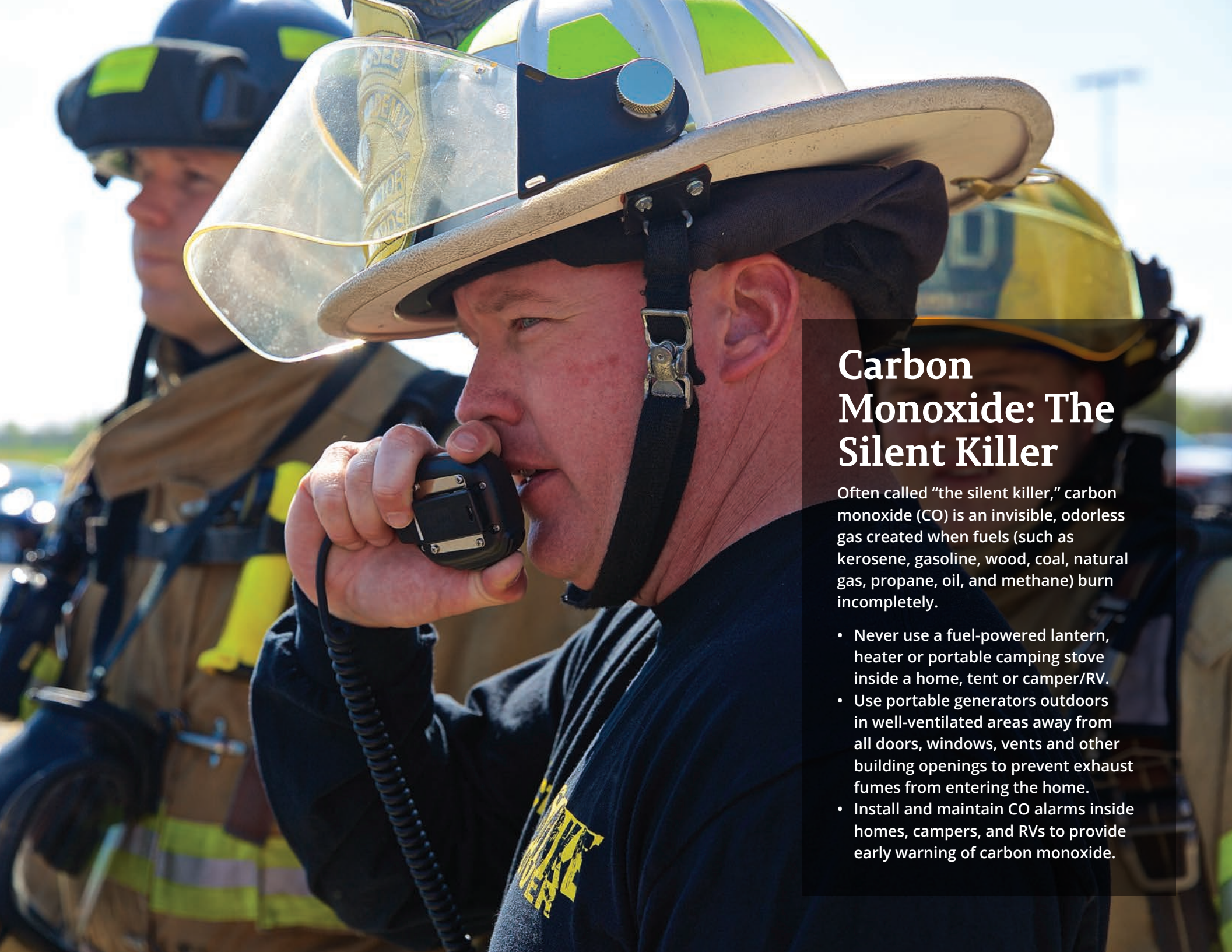
# January 2017

500 James Robertson Parkway  
Davy Crockett Tower | Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
(615) 741-2981 | [fire.prevention@tn.gov](mailto:fire.prevention@tn.gov)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 State Holiday	3 State Holiday	4 <i>Legislative session starts this month</i>	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY State Holiday	17	18	19	20 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION DAY	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4





## Carbon Monoxide: The Silent Killer

Often called “the silent killer,” carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless gas created when fuels (such as kerosene, gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely.

- Never use a fuel-powered lantern, heater or portable camping stove inside a home, tent or camper/RV.
- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, vents and other building openings to prevent exhaust fumes from entering the home.
- Install and maintain CO alarms inside homes, campers, and RVs to provide early warning of carbon monoxide.

# February 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 <i>February is Black History Month</i>	2 <b>GROUNDHOG DAY</b>	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 <b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b>	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> <i>Don't forget to update your voter registration!</i> <b>State Holiday</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4





## Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 12, 2017. As you change your clocks, remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms as well!

- Install alarms on every level of your home including the basement.
- For best protection, place alarms inside & outside sleeping areas.
- Maintain alarms with fresh batteries & test alarms monthly.
- Replace alarms that are 10 years old or older.



# March 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	1	2	3 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 SPRING FORWARD! <i>Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour and change the batteries in your smoke alarms!</i>	13	14	15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1



# Use Caution with Outdoor Burning

If your spring cleaning plans include the burning of limbs, lumber and other debris, take the following precautions to make sure your outdoor burning is handled properly:

- Check with your local fire department or municipality for any restrictions before starting an open air, recreational, or outdoor cooking fire. Obtain proper permits, if required.
- Closely supervise all outdoor fires. Make sure the fire is out before leaving.
- Avoid burning on windy, dry days.
- When burning, have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to extinguish the fire.
- If a fire gets out of control, call 911 immediately and wait in a safe place for the arrival of the local fire department.





# April 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 <b>APRIL FOOL'S DAY</b> <i>Don't get fooled by someone unlicensed... check <a href="http://verify.tn.gov">verify.tn.gov</a></i>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> State Holiday	15
16 <b>EASTER</b>	17	18 <b>TAX DAY</b>	19	20	21	22 <b>EARTH DAY</b>
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6



# Remember: Only Professionals Can Operate Sky Lanterns

As the summer's busy festival season gets underway, the State Fire Marshal's Office reminds Tennesseans that sky lanterns – which are unmanned airborne paper lanterns fueled by flame – can only be purchased and used by licensed fireworks professionals. Sky lanterns pose several hazards, including the ignition of combustible materials (grass, trees, rooftops, etc.), as well as a possible livestock danger when animals consume the remains of the lanterns.



# May 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 MOTHER'S DAY	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY State Holiday	30	31	1	2	3



A dramatic night scene featuring several firefighters in full protective gear. They are silhouetted against a massive, intense fire that fills the background with bright orange and yellow flames and thick, billowing black smoke. The firefighters are positioned in the foreground and middle ground, some holding hoses, their forms reflected on the wet pavement. The overall atmosphere is one of emergency and high heat.

## Tips for Safe Summer Grilling

While summer is the perfect time to gather with family and friends for a BBQ, the State Fire Marshal's Office warns that it is also the peak season for outdoor grilling fires. Tennessee cooks can make fire safety a priority by utilizing these basic tips when starting up the grill this summer:

- A grill should be placed well away from the home and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Never leave a grill unattended & always supervise children when a grill is in use.
- If using a charcoal grill, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.
- If using a propane grill, always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- Avoid using grills on balconies.

# June 2017

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(615) 741-2981 | [fire.prevention@tn.gov](mailto:fire.prevention@tn.gov)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 FLAG DAY	15	16	17
18 FATHER'S DAY	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1





## Plan and Practice a Home Fire Escape Plan

School may be out, but fire safety isn't. For many parents, the summer months mean children are at home with teenage siblings or babysitters. Care must be taken to both prevent and prepare for fire emergencies. Plan and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in your home:

- Draw a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of every room. Designate an outside meeting place where everyone should gather in an emergency.
- Ensure everyone in the home knows the sound the alarm makes and what it signifies.
- Ensure everyone in the household can unlock and open all doors, windows, and security bars.
- Practice your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home. Practice using different ways out.

# July 2017

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(615) 741-2981 | [fire.prevention@tn.gov](mailto:fire.prevention@tn.gov)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY State Holiday	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5





# Use Portable Fire Extinguishers Properly

A portable fire extinguisher can be a helpful piece of safety equipment when it comes to putting out a small fire, but extinguishers have limitations. Because fire grows and spreads so rapidly, the number one priority for residents during a fire incident is to get outside quickly and safely. Use a fire extinguisher only if:

- The fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing.
- Everyone is exiting the building and someone has called or is calling 911.
- The room is not filled with smoke.
- You have a means of escape identified and the fire is not between you and the escape route.
- You have the proper extinguisher for the fire. For the home, consider a multi-purpose extinguisher labeled 'A-B-C.'

# August 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2





# Avoid Smoking Dangers

With state fire statistics consistently indicating smoking as a major cause of fire loss, the State Fire Marshal's Office reminds Tennesseans that care must be taken with cigarettes.

- To prevent a deadly cigarette fire, you must be alert. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs that make you drowsy, or have consumed alcohol.
- If you smoke, smoke outside. Never smoke in bed.
- Never smoke where medical oxygen is used.
- Before you throw out butts and ashes, make sure they are fully extinguished. Put them out in water or sand.
- Use caution with electronic cigarettes (e-cigs). Charge the device as directed by the manufacturer. Only use the charger supplied with your device. Do not leave unattended while charging.

# September 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 LABOR DAY State Holiday	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 TENNESSEE CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS DAY	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



A group of firefighters in full protective gear, including helmets, face shields, and air tanks, are gathered outdoors. One firefighter in the foreground is kneeling, while others stand behind him. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Keep Halloween Festivities Fun and Fire-Free

Halloween can be an exciting time for kids and adults alike, but Tennessee revelers should pay close attention to hazards posed by candles, decorations, and costumes. The State Fire Marshal's Office offers the following Halloween fire safety tips:

- If you make your own costume, use materials that won't catch on fire easily if they come in contact with heat or flame.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks, and crepe paper are highly flammable. Keep these and other decorations away from all open flames and heat sources.
- It is safest to use a glow stick, flashlight, or battery-operated candles in a jack-o'-lantern. If you use a flame candle, keep it well attended at all times.
- Tell children to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop, and roll if their clothing catches fire.
- When visiting a haunted house, be aware of your surroundings and on the lookout for safety features that can make the difference during an emergency.



# October 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK	9 COLUMBUS DAY	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 HALLOWEEN	1	2	3	4





# Think Safety This Thanksgiving

National and state statistics show Thanksgiving is the leading day for home fires involving cooking equipment. Many of those cooking fires occur within minutes of residents leaving the kitchen. Celebrate Thanksgiving safely by remembering some simple but important cooking rules:

- Stay in the kitchen when frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food. If you must leave the room, turn off the stove.
- When simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.
- To prevent cooking fires, you must be alert. You will not be alert if you are sleepy, have consumed alcohol, or have taken medicine or drugs that make you drowsy.
- Turkey fryers pose fire and burn hazards. If frying your own turkey is a must, closely follow the directions supplied with the fryer.

# November 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 <b>FALL BACK!</b> <i>Don't forget to set your clock back one hour and change the batteries in your smoke alarms!</i>	6	7 <b>ELECTION DAY</b>	8	9	10 <b>State Holiday</b>	11 <b>VETERANS DAY</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b> <b>State Holiday</b>	24 <b>State Holiday</b>	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2



# Deck the Halls with Care

The winter holiday season should be a joyous time of year. However, certain types of fires and injuries associated with decorating are all too common and can put a damper on holiday celebrations. Following a few simple tips can help ensure a happy and fire-safe celebration season:

- Consider using flameless candles. If real candles must be used, be sure to keep them well-attended and away from anything that can burn.
- Inspect holiday lights each year for damage, such as frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, and broken or cracked sockets.
- Do not overload electrical outlets. Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe.
- Do not let live trees dry out. Water them regularly and recycle them promptly after the holiday.
- Avoid hazards posed by fireworks by attending a public fireworks display put on by trained professionals.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.



# December 2017

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Hanukkah Begins	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Hanukkah Ends	21	22	23
24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY State Holiday	26 State Holiday	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6





## Close the Door!

Did you know that a simple door is one of the best pieces of firefighting equipment? A closed door hinders flames and smoke from spreading to other rooms and can help deprive a fire of the oxygen it needs to grow, limiting structural damage and potentially saving lives.

### Remember:

- Close the bedroom door when sleeping if possible.
- Close doors behind you when escaping a room/building that's on fire.
- Keep fire doors closed. Never wedge, disable, or prop open fire doors in apartments or other buildings.

# January 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY State Holiday	2 State Holiday	3 <i>Legislative session starts this month</i>	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY State Holiday	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3





## Candle with Care

Candles are a popular piece of home décor, but they are also a major concern with fire service professionals and other safety organizations. When used improperly, candles have caused loss of life, injury, and significant property damage. The State Fire Marshal's Office offers the following tips to keep Tennesseans safe from candle fires:

- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- Place candles in sturdy holders and keep them well away from anything that can burn.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Extinguish them when leaving a room/the home or going to bed.
- Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas.
- Never use a candle where medical oxygen is being used.

# February 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 <i>February is Black History Month</i>	2 GROUNDHOG DAY	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17
18	19 PRESIDENTS' DAY <i>Don't forget to update your voter registration!</i> State Holiday	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	1	2	3





# Medical Oxygen Safety

The presence of portable, medical oxygen in homes has grown over the past decade, and so has the need for education about the fire hazards associated with its use. Medical oxygen adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air a patient uses to breathe. Fire needs oxygen to burn. If a fire should start in an oxygen-enriched area, the material burning will burn more quickly.

The State Fire Marshal urges Tennesseans to remember the following when medical oxygen is in use:

- There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. A patient on oxygen should not smoke.
- Candles, matches, wood stoves and even sparking toys, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home.
- Keep oxygen cylinders at least five feet from a heat source, open flames, or electrical devices.
- Body oil, hand lotion, and items containing oil and grease can easily ignite. Keep oil and grease away where oxygen is in use.

# March 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	1	2 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 SPRING FORWARD! <i>Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour and change the batteries in your smoke alarms!</i>	12	13	14	15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 GOOD FRIDAY State Holiday	31





## Essential Tips for Electrical Fire Safety

Flipping a light switch. Plugging in a coffeemaker. Charging a cell phone. These are second nature for most of us. While electricity makes our lives easier, it can also pose hazards if not properly monitored and maintained. Utilize these basic safety tips to help prevent electrical fires in the home:

- Have all electrical work done by a qualified electrician.
- Routinely check appliances and their wiring. Replace worn or damaged cords immediately. Do not try to repair them.
- Buy only appliances that bear the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Plug major appliances (refrigerators, dryers, etc.) directly into a wall outlet. Extension cords should not be used to power major appliances.
- Replace any electrical appliance or tool if it causes even small electrical shocks, overheats, shorts out, or gives off smoke or sparks.

# April 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 EASTER APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 TAX DAY	18	19	20	21
22 EARTH DAY	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5



# Fire Sprinklers: Protecting Lives and Property

When our building safety and fire prevention experts inspect buildings and review construction plans, they help to ensure the places where you live, learn, work, worship and play are safe. One of the best ways to keep homes and buildings safe from fire is the use of fire sprinkler systems. Fire sprinklers protect lives and property by keeping fires small and allowing more time for escape. If you're building or remodeling a home, consider the installation of home fire sprinklers. If you are looking to rent an apartment or condo, look for one that is fully sprinklered.

Know the facts about fire sprinklers:

- Sprinklers are activated by extreme heat, not smoke.
- Only the sprinkler head nearest the fire will activate, not all of them at once.
- Sprinklers are affordable. The cost of installing sprinklers is similar to the price of a carpet upgrade.





# May 2018

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 MOTHER'S DAY	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 MEMORIAL DAY State Holiday	29	30	31	1	2



A close-up photograph of the side of a red fire truck. The truck's body is a vibrant red with silver-colored metal trim and a diamond-plate pattern on the lower left. Large, yellow, three-dimensional block letters with black outlines are mounted on the door. The word "TENNESSEE" is at the top, followed by "FIRE & CODES" in the middle, and "ACADEMY" at the bottom. A side-view mirror is visible at the top of the door frame.

TENNESSEE

FIRE & CODES

ACADEMY

## Thank You

The Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office sincerely expresses its support for the men and women currently serving in the Tennessee fire service. We remain dedicated to helping you serve your communities across Tennessee.

All photography shot by TDCI photo/video specialist Andrew Diffie.

For more information about the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy, call 931-294-4111 or visit us online at [tn.gov/fire](http://tn.gov/fire).



# SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!

The HARDIN COUNTY FD will be in  
your neighborhood on SAT 4/30 to  
install free smoke alarms as part of  
"Get Alarmed TN!"



#GetAlarmedTN!



Department of  
Commerce &  
Insurance





Department of  
**Commerce &  
Insurance**

State Fire  
Marshal's Office

500 James Robertson Parkway | Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
(615) 741-2981 | fax: (615) 741-1583  
fire.prevention@tn.gov

 [tn.gov/fire](http://tn.gov/fire)

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